



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/600,370

06/23/2003

Wei-Ho Liu

7056

7590

10/06/2004

Ta Hsing Electric Wire & Cable Co., Ltd.
P.O. Box No. 6-57, Junghe
Taipei, 235
TAIWAN

EXAMINER

LEE, JINHEE J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2831

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/600,370

Applicant(s)

LIU, WEI-HO

Examiner

Jinhee J Lee

Art Unit

2831

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

At page 4 line 15 (according to the numbering on the left), "accommodating chamber 13" is confusing. Examiner suggests, "electrodes 13" instead to be consistent with the drawings and specification page 5 line 13.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 3 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. All of the limitations recited in claim 3 can be found in claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art figure 5 (PA figure 5) in view of Anthony (US005573412A).

Re claim 1, PA figure 5 substantially discloses a cable extension wire comprising a plug (60), a cable wire (70) connected with a rear end of the plug and provided with a

Art Unit: 2831

connected socket (80), wherein an accommodating chamber (unnumbered at the interior of 80) is disposed at an end portion of the socket and insertion holes are provided at a bottom portion of the accommodating chamber. PA figure 5 does not explicitly disclose that a connecting piece is provided at an outer edge of the accommodating chamber at a tube-shaped housing of the socket, and the other end of the connecting piece is provided with a cover, and one side of the cover is disposed with a protruding loop further having a circular groove at a root portion thereof, thereby pressing the protruding loop at one side of the cover into the accommodating chamber for preventing invasions of dust and moisture into the socket. However, Anthony teaches of a connecting piece (strap 100) provided at an outer edge of an accommodating chamber (unnumbered inside portions of 30 and 32) at a tube-shaped housing (30) of the socket (receptacle or female electrical connector, see column 4 lines 14-15 according to the numbering in the middle), and the other end of the connecting piece is provided with a cover (closure cap 16), and one side of the cover is disposed with a protruding loop (annular rib 116) further having a circular groove (unnumbered between 116 and 106) at a root portion thereof, thereby pressing the protruding loop at one side of the cover into the accommodating chamber for preventing invasions of dust and moisture into the socket (see figure 5 and column 4 lines 14-15). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the cover at the end of the connecting piece of Anthony on the outer edge of the accommodating chamber of PA figure 5 in order to seal the socket from the weather.

Art Unit: 2831

Re claim 2, note that the extension wire of PA figure 5 includes the wire wherein the plug and the socket are both tube-shaped housings.

Re claim 3, note that all the limitations of claim 3 are stated in claim 1.

5. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over PA figure 5 in view of Anthony, as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Warden et al. (US005567175A).

Re claim 4, the device of PA figure 5 as modified by teachings of Anthony discloses an extension wire as set forth in claim 1 above. It does not explicitly disclose that the socket is transparent and further has a neon light at an interior thereof, and the neon light is lit up when the plug is in good electric conductivity with a power supply. However, Warden et al. teaches of a socket (receptacle 15) that is transparent and further has a neon light (light source 53 of neon lamp) at an interior thereof, and the neon Light that is lit up when the plug is in good electric conductivity with a power supply (see figures 1, column 4 lines 22-23 and lines 29-30). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the transparent socket and neon light of Warden et al. on the extension wire of PA figure 5 modified by Anthony in order to provide visual indication of the availability of power.

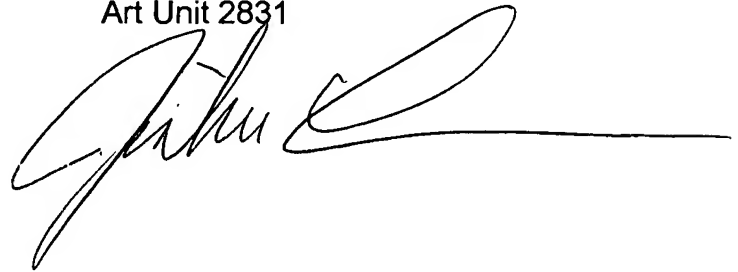
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jinhee J Lee whose telephone number is 571-272-1977. The examiner can normally be reached on M, T, Th and F at 6:30AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean A Reichard can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext. 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jinhee J Lee
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2831

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jinhee J Lee', followed by a long horizontal flourish line.

jjl